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Mexico

Agricultural Situation

Mexico's Monthly Crop Update, April 2002 2002

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Report Highlights:

The early official forecast for the 2002 spring/summer harvest is lower than previously estimated. FAS/Mexico is maintaining the previous cotton forecast for MY 2001/02 until it publishes its Annual Cotton Report in early June 2002.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1], MX

The tables below represent the most recent official data published by Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries, and Foodstuffs (SAGARPA). USDA does not necessarily concur with SAGARPA's data; however, it is used in these tables so that readers may have a consistent data source as a basis for their analysis. FAS/Mexico's numbers may ultimately vary significantly from those presented below because of input from non-SAGARPA sources.

ESTIMATE FOR FALL/WINTER 2001/02 HARVEST

Crop	Planting Intention Fall/ Winter 2001/02 (1000 has)	Area Planted Fall/ Winter 2001/02 (1000 has)	Area Harvested Fall/ Winter 2001/02 (1000 has)	Projected Production Fall/ Winter 2001/02 (1000 MT)	Production Harvested Fall/Winter 2001/02 (100MT)
CORN	7,640	7,551	6,881	16,622	16,362
SORGHUM	1,193	1,153	1,067	4,451	4,326
WHEAT	141	115	111	243	241
COTTON*	91	84	82	151	148
SOYBEANS	103	45	44	122	65
TOTAL	9,168	8,948	8,185	21,589	21,142

* Area on all tables is based on cotton lint (not cottonseed); SAGARPA reports area for the primary crop (i.e., cotton). The production estimate, however, is for cotton seed (there is a separate estimate for fiber which is reported in our annual and voluntary cotton reports).

SOURCE: SAGARPA as of March 31, 2002

FAS/MEXICO'S COMMENT:

SAGARPA sources have indicated that these production statistics are the final results for the Fall/Winter 2001/02 harvest. Consequently, FAS/Mexico will no longer be updating these figures. FAS/Mexico is maintaining the current production, supply, and demand (PS&D) numbers for the above-mentioned commodities (see MX 2037, MX 2037, and MX 1097)

FORECAST FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2002 HARVEST

Crop	Planting Intention Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 has)	Already Planted Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 has)	Projected Production Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 MT)	Production Harvested Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 MT)
CORN	988	946	3,622	239
SORGHUM	962	902	2,100	43
WHEAT	579	554	2,843	1
COTTON*	34	-	-	-
SOYBEANS	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	2,567	2,402	8,565	283

* Area on all tables is based on cotton lint (not cottonseed); SAGARPA reports area for the primary crop (i.e., cotton). The production estimate, however, is for cotton seed (there is a separate estimate for fiber which is reported in our annual and voluntary cotton reports).

SOURCE: SAGARPA as of March 31, 2002

COMMENT:

Cotton & Soybeans: As a result of lack of water and depressed prices (for cotton mainly), SAGARPA reports that planting area in cotton and soybean will be totally negligible in the 2002 spring/summer harvest. In cotton, for example, Sinaloa growers planted alternative crops with less risk and “relatively” higher profits, such as corn. Meanwhile, in Tamaulipas, the lack of water availability and early-season drought conditions prevented growers from planting. FAS/Mexico is maintaining the current PS&D numbers until our upcoming Cotton Annual Report (due 5/01/02) is published. This report will reflect any changes in the estimated production figures for MY 2001/02.

Sorghum: Industry sources believe sorghum production to be lower than SAGARPA’s current estimates. In fact, some sources estimate that sorghum production will be no more than 1.8 MMT. This is attributed to lower yields from continued heat and drought conditions, especially in Tamaulipas. This state produces approximately 80 percent of Mexico’s spring/summer harvest. SAGARPA, however, considers these figures to be extremely low and politically motivated, in order to increase Mexico’s sorghum imports. It should be noted that SAGARPA is sending an officer to Tamaulipas for field observation early next week. Consequently, FAS/Mexico will maintain the PSD numbers of our recent grain and feed annual report (see MX 2037). For the other crops, SAGARPA reports that planting intentions are keeping pace as scheduled.